



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region

Robert Schneider, Chair



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NOTICE OF PREPARATION FOR THE SOUTH DELTA IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM ENVIROMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ ENVIROMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

We have received your letter regarding the subject Notice of Preparation. The project description in your notice includes dredging of portions of Old River, West Canal and local channels and some construction activity. The notice also includes a discussion of the primary issues and water quality is listed as the second issue. Please note that in addition to the salinity standards listed as the primary water quality issue, the Environmental Impact Report should address the potential water quality impacts associated with the dredging and the construction activities. The entire Delta is listed as impaired due to chlorpyrifos, DDT, diazinon, Group A pesticides, mercury, and unknown toxicity. Part of the Delta is listed as impaired due to electrical conductivity and organic enrichment/low dissolved oxygen. Please note that there are proposed listings of other water bodies within the Delta and the State Water Resources Control Board will be considering the update of the CWA Section 303(d) list in November.

Waste Discharge Requirements and water quality certifications will be necessary for the dredging operations, and coverage under the Construction Storm Water General Permit will be necessary if the overall project causes a disturbance of an acre or more of land.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 255-3098.

SUE MCCONNELL
Senior Engineer

California Environmental Protection Agency

